

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 07423 01 OF 02 261413Z

51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07

RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00

PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SIL-01 LAB-06 EURE-00 DRC-01

/215 W

----- 090129

P R 261344Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7812

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 07423

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, AG, ENRG

SUBJECT: JOBERT VISIT TO ALGIERS

1. SUMMARY. QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR ALGERIA PAOLI WHO ACCOMPANIED JOBERT TO ALGERIA GAVE EMBOFF FOLLOWING RUN-DOWN OF MARCH 22-23 VISIT. PAOLI EMPHASIZED THAT HE HAD PARTICIPATED ONLY IN "EXPERTS" DISCUSSIONS AND THAT HE HAD NOT YET HAD A FULL BRIEFING ON HIGH-LEVEL CONVERSATIONS. ACCORDING TO PAOLI, JOBERT'S TALKS WITH ALGERIANS WENT WELL AND SOME PROGRESS ON BILATERAL PROBLEMS WAS MADE. THE ALGERIANS DO NOT SEEM PREPARED TO MAKE PRICE CONCESSIONS ON OIL AND MAINTAIN THAT THEY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 07423 01 OF 02 261413Z

INTEND TO FOLLOW THE LEAD OF THE MAJORITY OF ARAB STATES

ON OIL QUESTIONS. FRENCH AND ALGERIAN VIEWS ABOUT THE SPECIAL UNGA ARE CONVERGENT BUT NOT PARALLEL. THE AMERICAN PRESS IS BECOMING PARANOIAC ABOUT FRANCE. END SUMMARY.

2. ATMOSPHERE: PAOLI DESCRIBED THE TALKS AS HAVING GONE WELL IN A FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE BUT SAID THE ALGERIAN NEGOTIATORS WERE, AS USUAL, TOUGH. THE FRENCH HAD FOUND PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENNE MORE FLEXIBLE THAN FONMIN BOUTEFLEKA WHO, THE FRENCH SUSPECT, TRIED TO SCOTCH JOBERT'S VISIT, IN PART BECAUSE BOUTEFLEKA DID NOT WISH TO CONSULT WITH THE FRENCH ABOUT THE UPCOMING EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE UNGA. IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF'S QUERY WHETHER RUMORS THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN BOUMEDIENNE AND BOUTEFLEKA ARE NOT GOOD MIGHT HAVE SUBSTANCE, PAOLI SAID THERE WAS SOMETHING TO THEM, BUT PROBABLY LESS THAN THE MOROCCANS AND TUNISIANS HAVE INDICATED TO THE FRENCH. FOR EXAMPLE, THE FRENCH FIND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND THE BASIS FOR MOROCCAN FONMIN BENHIMA'S ASSERTION THAT BOUMEDIENNE TIMED HIS VISIT TO PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA TO COINCIDE WITH JOBERT'S ARRIVAL IN ORDER TO HAVE AN EXCUSE TO LEAVE HIS FONMIN IN ALGIERS AND EXCLUDE HIM FROM DISCUSSIONS WITH THE TUNISIANS. PAOLI SAID THAT BOUMEDIENNE IS PROBABLY NOW GIVING BOUTEFLEKA LESS LEEWAY THAN IN THE PAST BUT DOES NOT THINK THAT HIS POSITION IS THREATENED.

3. BILATERAL FRENCH-ALGERIAN RELATIONS: PAOLI SAID THAT JOBERT BELIEVES THE FRENCH SHOULD CONTINUE TO TALK WITH THE ALGERIANS AS LONG AS NECESSARY TO ARRIVE AT GRADUAL SOLUTIONS TO THE MANY PROBLEMS IN THEIR BILATERAL RELATIONS AND NOT TRY, FOR EXAMPLE, SPECIFICALLY TO RELATE PROGRESS IN SETTling COMPENSATION CLAIMS TO MOVEMENT ON THE QUESTION OF IMPROVED CONDITIONS FOR ALGERIAN WORKERS IN FRANCE. IN THIS CONTEXT, PAOLI THOUGHT THE CONVERSATIONS WOULD LEAD TO A GRADUAL DEBLOCKING OF A NUMBER OF THORNY PROBLEMS. HE SAID THE FRENCH HAD AGREED TO DO MORE TO IMPROVE HOUSING, TRAINING AND EDUCATION FOR IMMIGRANT WORKERS IN LINE WITH PREVIOUS BILATERAL ACCORDS. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 07423 01 OF 02 261413Z

FINMIN GISCARD D'ESTAING WILL SHORTLY NEGOTIATE ON

FINANCIAL MATTERS WITH HIS COUNTERPART IN ALGIERS, AND THE FRENCH ARE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE OUTCOME.

4. PAOLI SAID JOBERT HAD DISCUSSED OIL MATTERS AT SOME LENGTH, CONTRARY TO PRESS REPORTS. THE ALGERIANS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY WISH TO KEEP PRICES AS HIGH AS

POSSIBLE AND SHOWED NO INCLINATION TO MAKE PRICE  
CONCESSIONS FOR UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES OR ANYONE ELSE.  
PAOLI SAID THE FRENCH HAD SIGNED NO NEW OIL AGREEMENT  
WITH THE ALGERIANS AND THAT IF THE ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT  
HAS OIL AVAILABLE FOR DIRECT SALE OUTSIDE ALREADY EXIST-  
ING ARRANGEMENTS, FRANCE WOULD HAVE TO COMPETE ON AN  
EQUAL BASIS WITH OTHER BUYERS.

5. EUROPEAN-ARAB RELATIONS: PAOLI REPORTED LITTLE  
ABOUT JOBERT'S DISCUSSIONS ON EURO-ARAB RELATIONS.  
WHILE IN NO WAY BREAKING THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH THE OTHER  
ARAB OIL PRODUCERS, THE ALGERIANS INDICATED THAT IT WAS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 07423 02 OF 02 261410Z

51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07

RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00

PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SIL-01 LAB-06 EURE-00 DRC-01

/215 W

----- 090130

P R 261344Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7813

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 07423

THE GULF STATES AND NOT ALGERIA WHICH WISHED TO CONTINUE THE BOYCOTT OF HOLLAND AND DENMARK, ACCORDING TO PAOLI. HE SAID THE ALGERIANS TOOK A SIMILAR STANCE IN REGARD TO THE U.S. BOYCOTT, AT ALL TIMES EMPHASIZING THEIR INTENTION TO GO ALONG WITH WHATEVER THE MAJORITY OF ARAB STATES DECIDE. PAOLI CONSIDERS THAT THIS SEEMING ALGERIAN DESIRE TO FOLLOW THE CONSENSUS IS SMART POLITICS. HE STATED THAT JOBERT'S EMPHASIS ON THE MEDITERRANEAN IN HIS RECENT STATEMENTS ABOUT EURO-ARAB RELATIONS IS NOT A DEPARTURE FROM THE EARLIER FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EC-NINE AND

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 07423 02 OF 02 261410Z

THE TWENTY ARAB STATES.

6. UNGA: PAOLI DESCRIBED FRENCH AND ALGERIAN VIEWS ON THE GA SPECIAL SESSION AS "CONVERGENT, NOT PARALLEL." THE ALGERIANS WISH TO TURN THE SESSION INTO A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN INDUSTRIALIZED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TO AVOID TALKING ABOUT OIL, A SUBJECT WHICH THE FRENCH BELIEVE MUST BE TREATED. HE IMPLIED THAT THERE WAS AT LEAST AS MUCH DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ON THIS QUESTION AS THERE HAD BEEN AMONG THE NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU WHOSE DIFFERENCES, HE SAID, HAD NOT BEEN FULLY REFLECTED IN THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED JUST BEFORE JOBERT'S ARRIVAL.

7. "PARANOIA": EXPRESSING HIMSELF WITH UNUSUAL FEELING, PAOLI SAID THAT WITH ALL THE REAL DIFFERENCES BESETTING FRANCO-AMERICAN RELATIONS, IT IS A PITY THE AMERICAN PRESS IS GETTING SO "PARANOIAC" AS TO ACCUSE THE FRENCH OF COUNSELING AGAINST LIFTING THE ARAB OIL EMBARGO. IF ANY FRENCH AMBASSADOR WAS CRAZY ENOUGH TO HAVE DONE SO, HE SAID, HE HAD AT LEAST HAD THE INTELLIGENCE NOT TO REPORT IT TO HIS GOVERNMENT.

STONE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC COOPERATION, PETROLEUM, MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PRICES, EMBARGOES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974PARIS07423  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740064-1158  
**From:** PARIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740314/aaaaangn.tel  
**Line Count:** 210  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <25 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <24-Sep-2002 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JOBERT VISIT TO ALGIERS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, ENRG, FR, AG, (JOBERT, MICHEL)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005